

17. The barn of claim 15 further comprising a draft means for creating an air draft directed toward the waste collection area such that it impinges on the waste collection area of the floor first.
18. The barn of claim 15 wherein the animal feeding station contains water in a liquid collection dish.
19. The barn of claim 15 wherein the animal feeding station includes an on-demand means for releasing water upon demand by an animal.
20. A process for raising hogs, the process comprising: confining hogs on a solid floor including a sloped surface and a waste collection area at a lower end of the sloped surface, applying compostable, fibrous material to the solid floor, collecting manure-soiled fibrous material from the waste collection area and composting the manure-soiled fibrous material to form a nutrient rich material.
21. The process of claim 20 further comprising providing an area on the floor conducive to animal sleeping.
22. The process of claim 20 further comprising controlling the environment for the hogs to enhance defecation in the waste collection area.
23. A barn for raising hogs, the barn comprising: a structure including walls and a roof, a floor within the structure for supporting the hogs, the floor being solid such that materials on the floor settle on the floor without passing therethrough and capable of supporting an animal and the floor including at least one sloped surface and a waste collection area at a lower end of the sloped surface, a draft means for creating an air draft directed toward the waste collection area such that it impinges first on (a) the waste collection area of the floor or (b) the waste collection area and the lower end of the sloped surface, such that the draft in these area is greater than in other areas of the barn floor and an animal feeding station adjacent an upper end of the sloped surface.
24. The barn of claim 23 further comprising a heater to heat an area of the barn adjacent the upper end of the sloped surface, such that the area of the barn adjacent the upper end of the sloped surface is warmer than an area of the barn adjacent the lower end of the sloped surface.

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25. The barn of claim 23 wherein the animal feeding station contains water in a liquid collection dish.
 26. The barn of claim 23 wherein the animal feeding station includes an on-demand means for releasing water upon demand by an animal.
 27. A process for raising hogs, the process comprising: confining hogs on a solid floor including an area adjacent a waste collection area, applying compostable, fibrous material to the solid floor, directing an air draft toward the area adjacent the waste collection area such that it impinges first on the area adjacent the waste collection area of the floor to create an air draft in this area that is greater than in other areas of the floor, collecting manure-soiled fibrous material from the floor and composting the manure-soiled fibrous material to form a nutrient rich material.
 28. The process of claim 27 wherein the hogs are confined on a floor that is sloped toward the waste collection area to promote manure-soiled fibrous material to move by gravity toward the waste collection area.
 29. The process of claim 27 further comprising providing an area on the floor conducive to animal sleeping.
 30. The process of claim 27 wherein the waste collection area is included as a part of the floor on which the hogs are confined.
 31. A barn for raising hogs, the barn comprising: a structure including walls and a roof, a floor within the structure for supporting the hogs, the floor being solid such that materials on the floor settle on the floor without passing therethrough and capable of supporting an animal and the floor including at least one sloped surface and a waste collection area at a lower end of the sloped surface, a heater to heat an area of the barn adjacent the upper end of the sloped surface, such that the area of the barn adjacent the upper end of the sloped surface is warmer than an area of the barn adjacent the lower end of the sloped surface and an animal feeding station adjacent an upper end of the sloped surface.
 32. The barn of claim 31 further comprising a draft means for creating an air draft directed toward the waste collection area such that it impinges first on (a) the waste collection area of the floor or (b) the waste collection area and the lower

- end of the sloped surface, such that the draft in these area is greater than in other areas of the barn floor.
33. The barn of claim 31 wherein the animal feeding station contains water in a liquid collection dish.
34. The barn of claim 31 wherein the animal feeding station includes an on-demand means for releasing water upon demand by an animal.
35. A process for raising hogs, the process comprising: confining hogs on a solid floor in a barn including a sleeping area and an area adjacent a waste collection area, applying compostable, fibrous material to the solid floor, heating an area of the barn adjacent the sleeping area such that the area of the barn adjacent the sleeping area is warmer than the area of the barn adjacent the waste collection area, collecting manure-soiled fibrous material from the waste collection area and composting the manure-soiled fibrous material to form a nutrient rich material.
36. The process of claim 35 wherein the hogs are confined on a floor that is sloped toward the waste collection area to promote manure-soiled fibrous material to move by gravity toward the waste collection area.
37. The process of claim 35 further comprising controlling the environment to enhance defecation in the area adjacent the waste collection area.
38. A barn for raising hogs, the barn comprising: a structure including walls and a roof, a floor within the structure for supporting the hogs, the floor being solid such that materials on the floor settle on the floor without passing therethrough and capable of supporting an animal and the floor including at least one sloped surface and a waste collection area at a lower end of the sloped surface and an animal feeding station adjacent an upper end of the sloped surface and selected to contain water rather than allowing it to spill onto the floor.
39. The barn of claim 38 further comprising a heater to heat an area of the barn adjacent the upper end of the sloped surface, such that the area of the barn adjacent the upper end of the sloped surface is warmer than an area of the barn adjacent the lower end of the sloped surface.
40. The barn of claim 38 further comprising a draft means for creating an air draft directed toward the waste collection area such that it impinges first on (a) the

waste collection area of the floor or (b) the waste collection area and the lower end of the sloped surface, such that the draft in these area is greater than in other areas of the barn floor.

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41. The barn of claim 38 wherein the animal feeding station contains water in a liquid collection dish.
 42. The barn of claim 38 wherein the animal feeding station includes an on-demand means for releasing water upon demand by an animal.
 43. A process for raising hogs, the process comprising: confining hogs on a solid floor, applying compostable, fibrous material to the solid floor, providing a water supply to the hogs, the water supply selected to be contained rather than being spilled onto the floor, collecting manure-soiled fibrous material from the floor and composting the manure-soiled fibrous material to form a nutrient rich material.
 44. The process of claim 43 wherein the hogs are confined on a floor that is sloped toward a waste collection area to promote manure-soiled fibrous material to move by gravity toward the waste collection area.
 45. The process of claim 43 further comprising providing an area on the floor conducive to animal sleeping.
 46. The process of claim 44 further comprising controlling the environment to enhance defecation in the waste collection area.

REMARKS

Claims 1 to 14 remain in the application and new claims 15 to 46 have been added. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections to claims 1 to 14 in view of the following remarks.

With respect to the new claims, support for claims 15 and 20 can be found at page 8, lines 11 to 14 and Figure 2 of the specification. Support for new claims 23 and 27 can be found at page 7, lines 22 to 27. Support for claims 31 and 35 can be found at page 7, lines 16 to 18. Support for claims 38 and 43 can be found at page 7, lines 6 and 7.